

TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

April, 2008

Volume 33



49TH ANNUAL CITY OF TORRANCE ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE & CELEBRATION (May 16 - 18, 2008)

During the month of May, the City of Torrance continues its long-standing tradition and marks the 49th consecutive year it will be hosting the Armed Forces Day Celebration and Parade. This year, the City will once again honor the men and women of our nation's military with a three-day celebration beginning on Friday, May 16 continuing through Sunday, May 18 with the Parade highlight on Saturday, May 17. This year's honored branch is the United States Marine Corps.

During this weekend, the following events will occur in the City:

May 16, 2008 - 1:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.
James Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive.

Free Concert: The Marine Corps 1st Marine Division Band The Marine Corps 1st Marine Division Band from Camp Pendleton will perform an enjoyable variety of music for all ages, for free! The 1st Marine Division Band is comprised of talented and versatile Marine musicians. Come here them perform your favorite patriotic tunes!

May 17, 2008 - 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Parade route is along:
Torrance Boulevard from Crenshaw Boulevard to Madrona Avenue.

PARADE: 49th Annual Armed Forces Day Parade

This year, the tradition continues in Torrance where the community gathers to honor and thank the nation's Armed Forces for their generous and selfless acts. Torrance's parade is the longest-running Armed Forces Day Parade in the nation. As one of few cities designated by the Department of Defense, the City of Torrance is proud to honor the men and women of our nation's Armed Forces. This year, the Parade will be led by Major General Michael R. Lehnert of the United States Marine Corps, the honored branch.

May 16 -18, 2008
Del Amo Fashion Center, 21519-A Madrona Avenue

Military Exhibits - Military exhibits including aircrafts, vehicles, and support equipment will be on display for everyone at the Del Amo Fashion Center parking lot between Acapulco & Macy's.

What is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime in their communities.



Why should you have Neighborhood Watch on your block?

- * There cannot be a law enforcement officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime.
- * You and your neighbors are the ones who know the most about what is going on in your area.
- * By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their community in the most effective way, before it begins.



Neighborhood Watch in the City of Torrance

Throughout the City of Torrance, Neighborhood Watch programs have been established by citizens concerned about crime in their neighborhoods. The Torrance Police Department hopes to revitalize Neighborhood Watch and to introduce the program to residents who are not familiar with its benefits.

Crime prevention, particularly in residential neighborhoods, is a responsibility that is shared by all of us at the Torrance Police Department and by you in your neighborhoods. It is important to mention throughout the United States, law enforcement professionals report dramatic decreases in burglary and related offenses in communities with active Neighborhood Watch programs.

To help revitalize our city's Neighborhood Watch we will be implementing some changes to our existing program. To find out more information about Neighborhood Watch or to become a Block Captain you can:

- A) Log on to our website www.tpd.org
- B) Contact the Community Affairs office (310) 618-6392 or (310) 618-6391

MAP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD (MYN) PROGRAM

Earlier this year, through a collaboration with Hermosa, Manhattan and Redondo Beach we were able to fly out Dr. LuAnn Johnson (Public Education Program Manager) from Washington State. Dr. Johnson came to the South Bay to introduce the Map Your Neighborhood program, better known as MYN.



MYN empowers citizens in the event of a disaster, when police and fire response may be delayed, knowing your most immediate source of help will come from your neighbors.

This 9 step program (taught in a 90 min session) allows neighbors to share the skills that they have as well as the equipment/resources each household can provide in the event of a disaster.

We at the Torrance Police Department feel it is a perfect complement to Neighborhood Watch, so as we have begun to strengthen our Neighborhood Watch Program we have also started to plant the seed for MYN.

If you would like more information about the MYN program, please contact Community Affairs at (310) 618-6391



HOME SECURITY INSPECTION

An important step in preventing home burglary and other crimes is to make sure that a residence is as secure as possible. A careful inspection by someone trained to observe security precautions can indicate features which would make entry easy — or difficult — for a prospective burglar.

The Torrance Police Department has recently added Home Security Inspections as a service to residents of our city. To find out more about this free service please log on to our website at www.tpd.org and refer to the Community Affairs tab, or call Officer Dusty Garver at (310) 618-6392

We appreciate the opportunity to be of assistance to you in the community's fight against crime. We urge you not only to take steps to make your own residence safer, but also to become active in a Neighborhood Watch program for the benefit of your entire community.

The Torrance Police Department cannot be held liable for any burglary to your home. These are simply suggestions - it is up to the homeowner to secure their home and belongings.*

VACATION CHECKS



The Torrance Police Department also offers Vacation Security Checks to all Torrance residents. While you are away on vacation, officers from the Torrance Police Department will periodically stop by your home to check for open doors, broken windows or any other suspicious circumstances. This is another added security precaution you can utilize to safeguard your possessions and assure your peace of mind while you are on vacation. This is a free, but invaluable service provided by the Torrance Police Department to the citizens of Torrance. To sign up for a Vacation Security Check, log on to our website at www.torrancepd.org and click on either the "Online Services" tab or the "Crime Trends and Prevention" tab. The information requested on the form will be entered into our dispatch system so that our Patrol Officers will be notified at the beginning of their shift and be reminded to check your residence while you are away.

Please feel free to complete the form and submit it so that our officers have the opportunity to provide you with the level of service you deserve as a Torrance resident. If you have any questions regarding this service, you can contact the Community Affairs Division at (310) 618-6391/6392.



WHO TO CALL AT THE TORRANCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

For all Emergencies, dial 911

General information/ Non-Emergency (310) 328-3456

Personnel Division (310) 618-5707
Records Division (310) 618-5529
Patrol Division (310) 618-5641
 (Watch Commander)
Public Fingerprinting Services (310) 618-5730
Traffic Division (310) 618-5557
Towing Service (Van Lingen) (310) 370-4533
Emergency Preparedness (310) 618-5725

Recruitment (310) 618-2324
Jail Custody (310) 618-5631
Detective Division (310) 618-5570
Property/Evidence (310) 618-5521
Animal Control (310) 618-3850
Abandoned Vehicles (310) 618-2344
Victim Assistance (310) 618-5779

Community Affairs / Neighborhood Watch (310) 618-6392

Community Lead Officer:
 -North End (310) 618-5796
 -West End (310) 618-5794
 -East End (310) 618-5797
 -South End (310) 618-5782

Police Community Centers:
 -Del Amo (310) 371-1072
 -Downtown (310) 533-0896
 -North Torrance (310) 515-2774
 McMaster Park
 -Walteria (310) 373-8376

You can also log on to our website at www.torrancePD.org